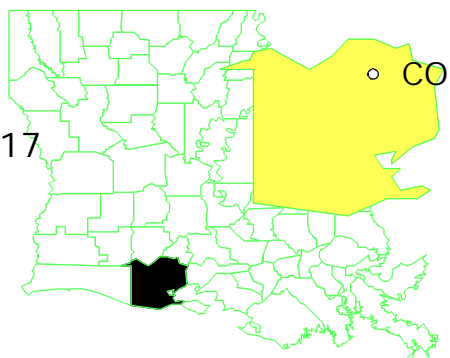


# GULF STATES

## UTILITIES

### LOUISIANA

EPA ID# LAD985169317



#### EPA REGION 6

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 07

Calcasieu Parish

Other Names:  
North Ryan Street Utilities Yard

Updated 6/4/97

## Site Description

---

**Location:** • 303 North Ryan Street, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

**Population:** • 56,120 in Lake Charles, Louisiana.  
• 4,988 in Westlake, Louisiana.

**Setting:** • Situated on the south bank of the Calcasieu River, just south of the River Road and North Ryan Street intersection, the site consists of east and west service yards separated by North Ryan Street. A six acre wetlands area was included as part of the site due to landfill activities associated with historical site operations.

- The site is currently operated as the Lake Charles Division Service Center of the Gulf States Utilities Company (GSU).
- The east service yard is 3 to 4 acres and the west service yard is approximately 16 acres in size. The area east of North Ryan Street was originally leased by GSU for storage; however, it is no longer used. The west service yard is used as a storage area and a repair center associated with Lake Charles Service Center operations. The wetlands area located on the west service yard is covered with shells and soil.
- The site is bounded to the south by commercial business, to the west by city of Lake Charles property, to the southwest by the Greater Lake Charles Water Company and the wastewater treatment plant, and to the east by residential areas.

## Wastes and Volumes

---

### Principal Pollutants:

- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) associated with coal gasification process.
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) associated with landfill activities.
- Volatile Organic Analytes (VOAs) associated with a former underground storage tank area.

## Site Assessment and Ranking

---

### NPL LISTING HISTORY

Site HRS Score: 50.43

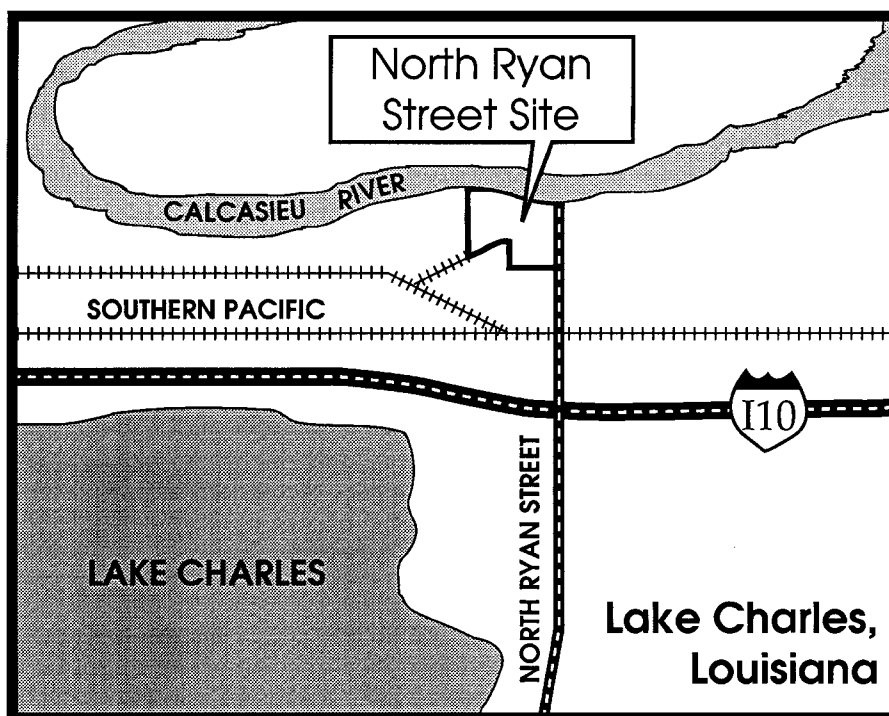
Proposed Date: 2/13/95

Final Date:

NPL Update: No. NPL-U18-2-5-R6

## Site Map and Diagram

---



## The Remediation Process

---

### Site History:

- Gas production at the North Ryan Street Site appears to have begun around 1916 by the Lake Charles Gas Company. The Lake Charles Gas Company operated the plant until 1924. The plant was operated by the Lake Charles Electric Company in 1925, and by the Louisiana Electric Company, Inc. in 1926. GSU operated the plant between 1927 and 1932, when manufactured gas production ceased at the facility, and the property was reportedly sold to United Gas Public Service Company.

- The annual production of gas during the years of operation at the North Ryan Street Site ranged from approximately 50 to 85 million cubic feet. Manufactured gas was phased out in 1932 when natural gas service became available to the city of Lake Charles. GSU currently operates and maintains the service center at the site.
- The coal tar by-products generated during gas plant activities were reportedly disposed of into marshlands west of the gas plant. The size of the wetlands area was approximately six acres. After the gas plant ceased operation, the wetlands area was used as a landfill for the disposal of electrical equipment and poles, appliances, and other debris. Transformers, capacitors, and drums containing used transformer oil were also reported to have been disposed of in this area. By 1980, the area was at its capacity and was filled and covered with shells and soil. This area is now used as an equipment storage area. An area of exposed coal tar, referred to as the tar outcropping (approximately 8 feet by 8 feet), has been identified at the northern portion of this former wetlands area. GSU has placed an aluminum covering over this seep area (observed on site trip 8/17/95).
- The manufactured gas plant (MGP) structures have been dismantled; however, remnants of the gas plant foundation are still present on site and the area is currently used for storage. The crude oil storage tanks were reportedly filled in by 1990 and the gas holder foundation is still visible on site (4-foot high structure).
- Potential problems were first identified in 1988 during an inspection conducted by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). In September 1988, LDEQ issued a compliance order to GSU to conduct remedial activities at the GSU-North Ryan Street site. GSU conducted phased investigative work required under this order beginning in December 1988 and continuing through October 1990.
- In response to concerns over the quality of investigative work being conducted, EPA conducted a site inspection (SI) at the site which included sampling activities during the week of October 1, 1990, and the completion of an SI report in September 1992.
- Samples collected during SI field activities from Calcasieu River sediments revealed that contaminants attributable to the GSU-North Ryan Street facility were being released to the Calcasieu River.
- In 1992, EPA began informal negotiations with GSU on site remedial strategy. However, these negotiations were not concluded due to a lack of resources at EPA and GSU's unwillingness to proceed without deferralment on the NPL ranking process.
- The Site was proposed to the NPL on February 13, 1995. GSU, EPA, and LDEQ have agreed informally upon a site strategy which includes an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) in support of a non-time-critical removal action and a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study for any concerns not addressed as part of the EE/CA (e.g., ground water connection to river, etc.).

#### **Health Considerations:**

- Potential direct contact threat for on site workers and trespassers with surficial coal tar residue in soils and sediments on site.
- Potential migration of contaminants into ground water and/or surface water increases potential risk of exposure for off site receptors.
- The Calcasieu River, a recreational fishery, is within 60 feet directly north of the GSU-North Ryan Street facility.
- Lake Charles and Prien Lake are within 15 miles of the site in the Calcasieu surface water system and are also recreational fisheries.

#### **Other Environmental Risks:**

- The Calcasieu River, Lake Charles, and Prien Lake are estuarine in nature and have designated uses of primary and secondary contact recreation and the propagation of fish and wildlife.
- Wetland areas contiguous to surface water downstream of the site are abundant.

## Record of Decision

---

Not Yet Signed

## Community Involvement

---

- Community Involvement Plan: In development
- Open houses and workshops: City Officials briefing 3/95
- Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting:
- ROD Fact Sheet:
- Milestone Fact Sheets:
- Citizens on site mailing list:
- Constituency Interest: Low
- Site Repository: Calcasieu Parish Library, Sulphur Regional Branch, 1160 Ryan St., Sulphur, LA 70663

## Technical Assistance Grant

---

- Availability Notice: Scheduled for spring 1997
- Letters of Intent Received:
- Final Application Received:
- Grant Award:
- Current Status:

## Fiscal and Program Management

---

- Remedial Project Manager: Stacey Bennett, 214/665-6729, EPA (6SF-LP)
- State Contact: Duane Wilson, 504/765-0487
- Community Involvement Coordinator: Verne McFarland, 214/665-6617, EPA (6SF-PO)
- Attorney: Jonathon Weisberg, 214/665-2180, EPA (6SF-DL)
- State Coordinator (EPA): Joe Massey, 214/665-7408, Mail Sta. 6SF-LL
- Prime Contractor: N/A

### **Cost Recovery:**

- PRPs Identified: 1
- Viable PRP: 1
- General Notice/104(e) letters issued in 1991 to Stone & Webster to obtain information about its involvement at the Site.
- Special Notice Letter issued on July 25, 1995 to Entergy Corporation, parent corporation to GSU. GSU provides a good faith offer via correspondence dated July 31, 1995.

## **Present Status and Issues**

---

- Negotiations for an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) for clean-up actions with the PRP at this site are nearing completion. On April 1996, the PRP submitted a workplan and sampling and analysis plan to conduct an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to evaluate the nature and extent of site contamination and an Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) will be performed concurrently to address the nature and extent of ground water issues as well as a baseline risk assessment.
- On November 1996, the PRP submitted a revised workplan and sampling and analysis plan based on comments from the Agency. The Agency provided final written comments on January 28, 1997. The AOC was mailed to the PRP on February 7, 1997. The workplan and sampling and analysis plan will be incorporated by reference in the AOC.
- The PRP began and completed sampling in February 1997. The sampling consisted of soil borings, sediment, and ground water sampling.
- The PRP signed the AOC on February 28, 1997. The Federal Register notice of the proposed AOC was published on May 5, 1997, in order to give the public an opportunity to comment on the cost recovery section of the AOC. The public had until June 4, 1997, to submit comments to EPA.
- The EPA initiated an IAG with the U.S. Corps of Engineers (USACE) for oversight assistance on the North Ryan site. The USACE accompanied EPA on May 21, 1997, on a site tour and discussed the streamline and baseline risk assessment goals.
- The Louisiana Office of Public Health (LOPH) is completing a health assessment on the North Ryan site. The RPM accompanied LOPH on the site tour scheduled on May 21, 1997.

## **Benefits**

---

- Implementation of the remedy will protect the Calcasieu River, a recreational fishery, and reduce possible contamination of a six acre wetland located adjacent to the site.